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Kohn Suggests Career Service

There is a need for creation of career jobs in the district attorney's office, Aaron Kohn said Wednesday.

Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan New Orleans Crime Commission Inc., said during a meeting of the Young Men's Business Club at the Roosevelt Hotel, that creation of such jobs would eliminate pressures for special privileges.

"There is also a need for a grand jury with greater authority," he continued. "There is a need for authority to create blue ribbon grand juries and a need for career jobs in the attorney general's office."

Kohn said he sees a need for an organized crime unit in the district attorney's office; a need to enact a law giving the attorney general the right to supplant the district attorney subject to review by the courts; a need to reinstate the right of a judge to conduct a public hearing at his own volition, the request of a district attorney, or by the petition of 25 persons.

"Various persons who have made accusations against the district attorney's office have created an obligation to investigate, prove or disprove, at least 22 different kinds of crime defined in our Louisiana Criminal Statutes," he said. "The MCC has written three letters to Attorney General Jack P. Gremillion asking him to intervene and investigate," Kohn added. "He writes back to refuse and give reasons why he cannot supplant or supersede."

Kohn again stressed that requests of the MCC to the attorney general are consistent with the law. He said the MCC will continue to insist that this "confusing problem in our community be resolved in accordance with rules established by the law. He said the MCC will continue to pursue, step-by-step means offered by the state constitution and state laws."

During a question-and-answer session following his address, Kohn gave the following answer to the question, "Do members of the MCC feel Garrison is following a rational pattern of investigation?":

"We have had no consensus of opinion on this in the MCC," he said. "There have been allegations of irrationality in Garrison's conduct. I believe there is a need for an impartial and competent investigation. Many people are starting to wonder about some of the emotional factors involved in some of the things Garrison has done."